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Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/NE PFCANNEY:DP
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S/S-O:PSHANKLE
---------- 063604
R 170051Z JUN 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 141213

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FI

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT BRIEFING OF FINNISH AMBASSADOR

1. FINNISH AMBASSADOR TUOMINEN CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRE-
TARY HARTMAN JUNE 12 TO REQUEST BRIEFING ON PRESIDENT FORD'S

RECENT EUROPEAN VISIT AND LATEST US ESTIMATE OF CSCE STAGE

2. CSCE - HARTMAN DISCUSSED REMAINING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
ALLIES AND SOVIETS ON BASKET I, 2 AND 3 ISSUES, INDICATING
US IMPRESSION THAT MAJOR COMPROMISES ARE BEING MADE AT
GENEVA. WITH REGARD TO CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES,
MILITARY MANEUVERS NOTIFICATION ISSUE STILL UNRESOLVED.
HARTMAN SAID THAT WHEREAS SOVIETS HAVE RECENTLY AGREED TO
GIVE NOTICE NO EARLIER THAN 18 DAYS BEFORE MANEUVERS
OCCURRING WITHIN 250 KILOMETERS OF EAST-WEST BORDERS AND
INVOLVING A MINIMUM OF 30,000 MEN, MANY WESTERN EUROPEAN
COUNTRIES ARE INSISTING ON FORMULA OF 300 KILOMETER DEPTH,
25,000 MEN AND 21 DAY NOTIFICATION. HARTMAN SAID US
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CONSIDERED SOVIETS LATEST POSITION A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE FROM
ORIGINAL SOVIET OFFER, BUT POINTED OUT THAT WEST EUROPEANS
ARE ADAMANT THAT SOVIETS MUST MEET THEIR DEMAND ON WHAT THEY

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CONSIDER THIS VITAL ISSUE.

3. ON TIMING OF STAGE III, HARTMAN SAID THAT IF SUMMIT IS TO BE HELD DURING THIRD WEEK OF JULY AND FINNS ARE TO RECEIVE FOUR-WEEK NOTICE OF SUCH, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO HAVE AGREEMENT IN STAGE II BY ABOUT JUNE 20. HE SAID THAT, GIVEN TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF WORK YET TO BE FINISHED AT GENEVA, THERE ARE THOSE WHO DOUBT JULY MEETING POSSIBLE. US BELIEVES JUNE 20 DEADLINE CAN CONCEIVABLY BE MET, HOWEVER, AND IS WILLING TO WORK ASSIDUOUSLY TO REACH IT. WE CANNOT, OF COURSE DICTATE THE OUTCOME OF STAGE II. HARTMAN POINTED OUT THAT US WOULD PREFER MAXIMUM THREE-DAY

STAGE III MEETING, RATHER THAN FIVE-DAY CONFERENCE SOMETIMES MENTIONED. FACTORS WHICH COULD COMPLICATE THE TIMING OF STAGE III, EVEN ASSUMING AGREEMENT REACHED AT GENEVA, INCLUDE THE CYPRUS REPRESENTATION ISSUE AND MALTA'S INTENTIONS WITH REGARD TO A MEDITERRANEAN DECLARATION.

4. HARTMAN NOTED GREAT SUCCESS OF NATO SUMMIT AND PRESIDENT

FORD'S MEETINGS WITH EUROPEAN HEADS OF GOVERNMENT, AND TIMELINESS OF IEA AND OECD MEETINGS. HE SAID THERE CAN NOW BE NO UNCERTAINTY REGARDING AMERICAN COMMITMENTS TO NATO AND OF OUR EAGERNESS TO COORDINATE OUR VIEWS ON A WIDE VARIETY OF ECONOMIC AND DC-LDC ISSUES WITH THOSE OF THE EUROPEANS. HE EXPRESSED CONTINUING USG CONCERN OVER DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGAL NOTING THAT THE NATO ALLIES, THROUGH THEIR OWN RECENT APPRAISALS, ARE PROBABLY EVEN MORE PESSIMISTIC NOW THAN US. WHILE IT WAS DIFFICULT TO KNOW HOW TO ASSIST DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT IN THAT COUNTRY, THE US WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY MASSIVE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM -- AS SOME IN WESTERN EUROPE ADVOCATE.

5. ON CYPRUS ISSUE, HARTMAN SAID SOME PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN THAT TURKISH AND GREEK CYPRIOTS ARE AT LEAST TALKING ABOUT REAL ISSUES. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE CONFIDENTIAL

TURKISH POLITICAL SITUATION AND THE US ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY WERE TWO NEGATIVE FACTORS DEFINITELY HINDERING ABILITY OF TURKISH SIDE TO TAKE NECESSARY STEPS TOWARD COMPROMISE.

6. TUOMINEN EXPRESSED GREAT APPRECIATION FOR COMPREHENSIVE AND FRANK BRIEFING. HE INDICATED THAT HE WOULD RETURN TO HELSINKI ON JUNE 19 FOR LONG HOLIDAY, RETURNING TO WASHINGTON ONLY IN AUGUST. KISSINGER

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